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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/034,047	12/27/2001	Sukhwinder Uppal	P14701-PUCN	1650
7590	11/08/2005		EXAMINER JABR, FADEY S	
Sidney J. Weatherford MS/EVW2-C-2 6300 Legacy Drive Plano, TX 75024			ART UNIT 3639	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 11/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/034,047

Applicant(s)

UPPAL, SUKHWINDER

Examiner

Fadey S. Jabr

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/18/2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per **Claim 4**, the recitation of “transmitting an initial signal” is vague and indefinite. It is unclear to the Office to whom or where the initial signal is being transmitted. For purposes of examination “transmitting an initial signal” is understood to be any transmission of an original signal.

3. Claim 6 recites the limitation "said subsequent signal" in line 3 of claim 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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5. Claims **1-21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Titus et al., Pub. No. US2002/0029189 A1.

As per **Claim 1**, Titus et al. discloses a method for managing a prepaid subscriber (PPS) account in a telecommunication system, the method comprising the steps of:

- establishing a credit balance in said PPS account (Para. 16, lines 4-7; Para. 24);
- linking at least one supplementary service to said PPS account wherein a tariff table for said at least one supplementary service includes a rate comprising a periodic charge associated with a predetermined time period (Para. 25, 42-43);
- determining that said predetermined time period associated with said supplementary service is complete (Para. 42, lines 6-; Para. 47); and
- applying said associated periodic charge to said PPS account (Para. 42-43).

As per **Claim 2**, Titus et al. further discloses a method wherein linking said at least one supplementary service to said subscriber account further comprises linking said PPS account to a supplementary service sub-account and a call-event sub-account (Para. 25, 31).

As per **Claim 3**, Titus et al. further discloses a method wherein applying said periodic charge to said PPS account further comprises applying said periodic charge to said supplementary service sub-account (Para. 42, 47).

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As per **Claim 4**, Titus et al. further discloses a method further comprising the step of transmitting an initial signal upon activation of said supplementary service sub-account (Para. 10).

As per **Claim 5**, Titus et al. further discloses a method further comprising the steps of:

- utilizing a timing function for measuring said predetermined time period

(Para. 35, 42-43); and

- sending a signal subsequent to said initial signal wherein said subsequent signal indicates the end of said time period (Para. 47).

As per **Claim 6**, Titus et al. further discloses a method further comprising the steps of:

- detecting said initial signal (Para. 10);
- detecting said subsequent signal (Para. 6);
- determining that said predetermined time period has passed

(Para. 42, lines 6-7; Para. 47); and

- generating a call data record associated with said supplementary service, according to said tariff table, for application to said PPS account (Para. 25, 54, 67).

As per **Claim 7**, Titus et al. further discloses a method further comprising the step of applying said call data record to said PPS account (Para. 67).

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As per **Claim 8**, Titus et al. further discloses a method further comprising the step of linking said supplementary services to said prepaid subscriber account wherein said prepaid subscriber account is stored on a home location register (Para. 31).

As per **Claim 9**, Titus et al. discloses an apparatus for managing a prepaid subscriber account in a wireless telecommunication system, comprising:

- a prepaid administration system coupled with said prepaid subscriber account (Para. 31);
- a means for charging and reducing funds in said prepaid subscriber account (Para. 31);
- a database for storing tariff information associated with said prepaid subscriber account wherein said tariff information comprises (Para. 31):
 - a first value for call events (Para. 22, lines 10-15); and
 - a second value for periodic charges related to said supplementary service sub-account (Para. 42-43); and
- a timer for determining a time period related to said periodic charges (Para. 42-43, 47).

As per **Claim 10**, Titus et al. further discloses an apparatus wherein said PPS account comprises a supplementary service sub-account and a call-event sub-account (Para. 31).

As per **Claim 11**, Titus et al. further discloses an apparatus further comprising a means for applying said periodic charges to said supplementary service sub-account (Para. 42, 47).

As per **Claim 12**, Titus et al. further discloses an apparatus further comprising a signal generating means for generating an initial signal upon activation of said supplementary service sub-account (Para. 10).

As per **Claim 13**, Titus et al further discloses an apparatus further comprising: a timing function for measuring said predetermined time period; and detection means for detecting said initial signal and a signal corresponding with the end of said time period (Para. 35, 42-43, 47).

As per **Claim 14**, Titus et al. further discloses an apparatus further comprising means for generating a call data record associated with said supplementary service, according to said tariff table, for application to said PPS account (Para. 25, 54, 67).

As per **Claim 15**, Titus et al. further discloses an apparatus further comprising means for applying said call data record to said prepaid subscriber account (Para. 25, 54, 67).

As per **Claim 16**, Titus et al. further discloses a computer program product within a computer usable medium for managing a prepaid subscriber (PPS) account in a telecommunication system, comprising the steps of:

- instructions within the computer usable medium for establishing a credit balance in

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said PPS account (Para. 16, lines 4-7, 24);

- instructions within the computer usable medium for linking at least one supplementary service to said subscriber account wherein a tariff table for said at least one supplementary service includes a rate comprising a periodic call data record associated with a predetermined time period (Para. 42, 43);

- instructions within the computer usable medium for determining that said predetermined time period associated with said supplementary service is complete (Para. 42, lines 6-7; Para. 47); and

- instructions within the computer usable medium for applying said associated periodic charge to said PPS account (Para. 42-43).

As per **Claim 17**, Titus et al. further discloses a computer program product wherein instructions for linking said at least one supplementary service to said subscriber account further comprises instructions for linking said PPS account to a supplementary service sub-account and a call-event sub-account (Para. 25, 31).

As per **Claim 18**, Titus et al. further discloses a computer program product wherein instructions for applying said periodic charge to said PPS account further comprises instructions applying said periodic charge to said supplementary service sub-account (Para. 42, 47).

As per **Claim 19**, Titus et al. further discloses a computer program product further comprising:

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- instructions within the computer usable medium for utilizing a timing function for measuring said predetermined time period (Para. 35, 42-43); and
- instructions within the computer usable medium for sending a signal subsequent to said initial signal wherein said subsequent signal indicates the end of said time period (Para. 47).

As per **Claim 20**, Titus et al. further discloses a computer program product further comprising:

- instructions within the computer usable medium for detecting said initial signal (Para. 10);
- instructions within the computer usable medium for detecting said subsequent signal; and (Para. 6)
- instructions within the computer usable medium for determining that said predetermined time period has passed (Para. 42, lines 6-7, Para. 47); and
- instructions within the computer usable medium for generating a call data record associated with said supplementary service according to said tariff table for application to said PPS account (Para. 25, 54, 67).

As per **Claim 21**, Titus et al. further discloses a computer program product further comprising instructions within the computer usable medium for applying said call data record to said PPS account (Para. 67).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Hanson, U.S. Patent No. 6,035,025.

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that the applicant, in preparing the responses, fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fadey S. Jabr whose telephone number is (571) 272-1516. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. 7:30am to 4:00pm.

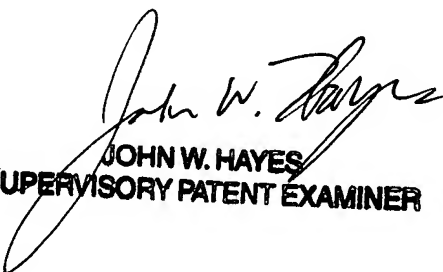
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Fadey S Jabr
Examiner
Art Unit 3639

FSJ


JOHN W. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER